# ARUBA ESSO NEWS

VOL. 1, No. 1

PUBLISHED BY THE LAGO OIL & TRANSPORT CO., LTD.

December 18, 1940

### Advisory Committees Meet





The Employees Advisory Committee is shown above; at left is the General Advisory-Committee. Included are several management representatives. These men were the first to be told the story below.

### M. G. Gamble, Marine Mgr., Goes to N. Y.; McCormick Is Acting Marine Manager

Millard G. Gamble, Marine Manager at Aruba for Venezuela and the Caribbean area, recently was transferred to the Marine Department of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey in New York. Harold A. McCormick has taken over Mr. Gamble's duties here and is serving as Acting Marine Manager

Mr. Gamble was graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1915 and served on various vessels of the U.S. Navy, among which were the battleships Utah and Nevada, the transport Hanock during the World War, and the Presidential yacht Mayflower. He joined the Marine Department of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey in 1919 and served in various capacities in the Construction and Repair, Operating, and Traffic divisions. He was Manager of the Caribbean division at the time of his transfer to Aruba as Marine Manager in March, 1939, on the retirement of the late Captain Robert Rodger.

Mr. McCormick also is a graduate of the Naval Academy. After considerable service in the Marine Department of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, he was transferred to Aruba as Assistant Marine Manager on October 1, 1939.

### New Paper Sponsored By Company Will Be For All Employees

This, the first issue of the ARUBA ESSO NEWS, is your paper. It will concern itself with the activities of Company employees at work and at play, it will carry management announcements on occasion, and it will attempt at all times to be both interesting and informative. Sponsored by the Company, the NEWS has no connection with any other publication and its news coverage will not conflict with that of any other local paper.

The Aruba Esso News will appear every two weeks — probably every other Friday — when initial problems of printing, engraving, and editing have been ironed out. As you see, the News is printed in good clear type and will carry linecuts and halftone engravings. Subsequent issues will be printed on a finer grade of paper stock. Every Company employee will receive a copy free.

The editor of the ARUBA ESSO NEWS is R. W. Schlageter, whose office is in the Personnel Building.

## Additional Thrift Plan Contribution Will Be Given to Participants

This Year's Contribution Is to Be Distributed Same as in 1939

Announcement that an additional contribution had been made by the Company to participants in the Lago Thrip Plan and the Overseas Thrift Plan we made to all employees on Thursday, December 12. Officers of the General Advisory Committee and of the Employees Advisory Committee were told of the contribution on Wednesday afternoon, December 11, and requested to inform other Committee members, while notices telling of the contributions were distributed to each employee.

This 1940 additional contribution, the second in as many years distributed to participants in the two Plans, is being arranged in essentially the same manner as last year's contribution. When the two Plans were set up, it was made clear that while there is no guarantee of additional contributions embodied in the provisions of either Plan, the Company hoped to make an extra sum available when business conditions, earnings, cash position, and other factors justified such action.

### Contribucion Adicional Pa Participantenan Den Thrift Plan

Empleadonan di Compania a ricibi anuncio Diajuebes, 12 di December, cu Compania a duna un contribución adicional na tur participantenan den "Lago Thrift Plan" i "Overseas Thrift Plan". Oficialnan di e Comité Consultativa General i e Comité Consultativa di Empleadonan a worde participá di e contribución Diarazon atardi, 11 di December, i nan a worde pidí pa pasa e noticia na e otro miembronan di Comité, mientras cada empleado a ricibi participamento pa medio di anuncios cu a worde repartí den planta.

Siendo cu detayanan di e contribución adicional a worde cubrí den e anuncionan na e empleadonan, ARUBA ESSO NEWS lo no trata di duna un descripción completo ariba e asunto aki.

E contribución adicional pa 1940, cu ta e di dos repartí entre participantenan den e dos plannan di spaar den mes tanto aña, lo worde distribuí di e mes manera cu e contribución pa e aña anterior. Tempo e plannan a worde inaugurá, a worde anunciá cu aunque lo no tin ningun garantia pa contribucionnan adicional incluí den ningun di e dos plannan, Compania ta spera di por pone un suma un banda pa e proposito ey segun circunstancia di negoshi, ganamento, i otro factornan por justifica esey.

#### WHAT THEY'RE DOING NOW

Clarence Gravlee is now an autoobile saleman at Mt. Dora, Fla. The ravlees have had a baby daughter since eaving Aruba.

Allen Higby is an oil inspector for the New Jersey state tax department, working on oil company tax returns.

Andy Hogue is with the Western Cartridge Company at Alton, Ill. Part of his work in the physical testing laboratories is checking up on British machinegun bullets.

Note: This department is open to all employees, and will be of interest only with the help of all employees. If you hear from someone who left Aruba six months or five years or ten years ago, let the editor know. Your friends will be interested too.

### Christmas Greeting

In celebrating Christmas here with joy and gladness in the traditional manner, we are not unmindful of the suffering and grief of the peoples of other lands not so fortunate as we. Our sympathy goes out to them. However, with our thoughts concentrated on Him whose birth Christmas celebrates. we look forward with confidence in our faith that His way of life eventually will lead to Peace and Brotherhood. Let us rejoice that we have this faith, and enjoy the fellowship we have together on this peaceful island. With these thoughts in mind I wish our Lago family a Merry Christmas and success in the New Year.

### Bon Pascu

Ora nos ta celebra Pascu aki cu gozo i alegria, di acuerdo cu e costumbra tradicional, nos no ta lubida e sufrimentonan i dolornan di hendenan na otro lugarnan, cu no ta mes afortunado cu nos. Nos simpatia ta cu nan. Sin embargo, cu nos pensamentonan concentrá ariba Esun kende Su nacemento ta worde celebrá ariba dia di Pascu. nos ta mira adilanti cu confianza den nos creencia cu Su modo di bida cu tempo lo duna nos Paz i Fraternidad. Laga nos regocija cu nos tin e fé aki, i laga nos goza di e compañerismo cu nos tur huntu tin ariba e isla tranquilo aki. Cu e pensamentonan aki presente, mi ta desea tur cu ta yuda forma nos familia Lago un Feliz Pascu prosperidad den e Aña Nobo.

L. G. Smith

## Safe Driving Awards Are Given 108 Drivers

Perfect Record for Entire Year Wins Badges for 12 Men

Safe driving awards of Fl. 10 for the July-August-September period were made to each of 108 Company passenger car and truck drivers at a meeting in the Royal Theater, San Nicolas, on Thursday evening, December 5. This was the regular quarterly meeting during which successful participants in the Company's Safe Driving Contest are accorded recognition for avoiding accidents and complying with other rules of the Contest.

Each of 12 drivers, who were given their fourth consecutive quarterly awards, also received a badge with his name engraved on the reverse side, showing that he had completed one year of safe driving. The men receiving these special awards were:

Cornelius Jack
Crispin Croes
Christopher Moore
Guillaume Essers
William Alexis
Pedro Maduro
Jose Pangracia
Ramano Geerman
Dominico Bislicht
Angel Gonsalez
Jan Pehna
Alesio Geerman

Watching
Engineering
Marine
Laboratory
Esso Club
Electrical
Labor
Labor
Labor
Labor
Labor
Labor
Labor
Labor

Clyde Fletcher of the Labor department acted as master of ceremonies. After introductory remarks regarding the contest by Safety Director Gordon Owen and his assistant, Jan Beaujon, talks were made by Gilbert Brook, chief watchman, and Luciano Wever of the Labor department. Alvin Johnson, member of the Contest committee, assisted in presenting the awards.

Following the program, motion pictures were shown for the contestants and guests through the courtesy of Edward de Veer.

### Do Ye Ken Blackie and Rusty? They Attend Every Softball Game

Aruba's most faithful rooters at softball games are a couple of dogs of doubtful origin but very definite characteristics. Blackie is larger than Rusty, but both feel it their duty to investigate the state of the diamond at least four or five times during each game. The players stop the game momentarily.

The NEWS Inquiring Reporter has discovered that "Sonny" Wade is Rusty's official sponsor, while Forest Hayes

paid for Blackie's license this year. Both animals, however, are dependent to a great extent on the day-by-day support accorded them by the Junior Esso Club.

Blackie, incidentally, never had worn a collar until this year. When Forest played the Good Samaritan to permit Blackie's looking the dog catcher in the eye, Blackie was not at all appreciative, and report has it that he growled at the collar three successive days.

### ARUBA ESSO NEWS

PUBLISHED AT ARUBA, CIRA CAO, BY THE LAGO OIL & TRANSPORT CO., LTD.

### THIS IS YOUR PAPER

When a cub reporter is assigned to his first job, he is cautioned to get five things into every news story - why, when, who, where, and how. Since ARUBA ESSO NEWS is the first printed and illustrated publication sponsored directly by the Company, it is in line with good news practice to make sure that these five things are covered properly when announcing the birth of the NEWS.

The ARUBA ESSO NEWS, which will be published every two weeks, is written and printed for employees of the Lago Oil & Transport Co., Ltd., and each employee is entitled to a free copy It will explain Company policies and plans, announce personnel changes and promotions, and in general report the activities of all employees. The editor, whose office is in the Personnel Building, always will welcome articles and stories of interest to Company employees.

Most important is WHY the ARUBA ESSO NEWS is being published. It is believed that employees like to read about other employees - what they have done and how they did it; that both men and management have essentially the same interests and want to hear of each others' plans and achievements; and that a well illustrated, clearly printed, and well edited employees' publication will broaden the already excellent understanding existing among the various groups which make up your Company,

The ARUBA ESSO NEWS hereby dedicates itself to the pleasant task of encouraging every employee to consider himself not simply a clerk or a laborer or a foremen or a tradesman, but a member of an organization which is performing an important function in the petroleum world of today.

### CHRISTMAS, 1940

Occasionally at this time of year we hear one or another person say, with a sigh for times past: "There's no doubt about it, Christmas isn't what it was when we were children". The speaker may mention the increasingly fast tempo of modern life, the abundance of wordly distractions and resultant loss of religious feeling, or the growing cynicism nourished by events in a world gone topsy-turvy.

We may perhaps be forgiven if, in the everyday business of living, the weight of our daily problems occasionally submerges the realization of the spiritual values that have sustained men throughout the centuries. These values have endured through wars, revolutions, and the Dark Ages, and will continue to endure when the world's present troubles have passed into history.

At this season, then, it is well to pause, and to sense the deep inner conviction that it is still and always will be worthwhile to renew one's faith in God and in his fellows, that charity and good will still have their place in the hearts of men.

### ESAKI TA BO CORANT

Ora un reporter nobo worde duná su prome trabao, e ta worde duná di comprende cu e mester percura inclui cinco cos den cada reporte di noticia cu e scirbi pakiko, ki ora, kende, unda, I con. Siendo cu ARUBA ESSO NEWS ta e prome corant gedruk i ilustrá cu e Compania aki ta saca, ta nada mas cu propio pa e bon costumbra worde siguí i esfuerzo worde hací pa e cinco puntonan worde debidamente cubrí ora nacemento di e corant ta worde anunciá.

ARUBA ESSO NEWS, cu lo sali cada dos siman, ta worde scirbí i publicá pa empleadonan di Lago Oil & Transport Co. Ltd. i cada empleado tin derecho di haya un numero gratis. E lo splica pólizanan i plannan di Compania, anuncia cambionan i promociónnan den personal, i en general, reporta actividadnan di tur empleadonan. E redactor, kende su oficina ta establecí den Oficina di Personal, semper cu gusto lo ricibi articulonan of storianan cu ta di interes pe empleadonan di compania.

Di mas importancia ta pakiko ARUBA ESSO NEWS ta worde publicá. E opinion ta cu empleadonan ta gusta lesa tocante otro empleadonan - kiko nan a haci i con nan a haci esey; cu empleadonan I directiva, tur dos, tin esencialmente e mes interesnan i por supuesto un ta desea di tende di e plannan I éxitonan di e otro; i cu un corant pa empleadonan bon gedruk, bon ilustrá i bon redactá lo aumenta ainda mas e comprendemento excelente cu va ta existi entre e varios gruponan cu ta forma nos Compania..

ARUBA ESSO NEWS ta dedica su mes na e trabao agradable di encurasja cada empleado den considera su mes no simplemente como un klerk of un peon of un forman of un trahador di ofishi, pero como un miembro di un organización cu ta contribuyendo grandemente na e presente industria petrolera.

### **PASCU 1940**

Na e tempo aki den aña de vez en cuando nos ta tende un persona of otro bisa, cu un suspiro pa épocanan cu ya a pasa: "Sin ningun duda Pascu no ta loque e tawata tempo nos tawata mucha". E persona podise ta menciona e movemento rápido di bida moderno, e abundancia di distracciónnan mundano i como resultado e perdida di sintimento of gevoel religioso, of podise e cinismo creciente cu ta worde alimentà pa loque ta pasa den un mundo trastorná.

Podise nos por worde perdonà si de vez en cuando den e bida di tur dia, e peso di nos problemanan di cada dia, ta sumergi e realización di e valornan spiritual cu a sostene humanidad door di siglonan. E valornan aki a keda existi door di guerranan, revolucionnan, i e edad media, i lo sigui existi ora e presenta tribulacionnan den mundo ya a pasa i a bira historia.

Na e tempo aki, anto, ta bon pa nos para i realiza e convicción profundo den nos, cu ainda ta i semper lo keda vale la pena pa renoba nos fé den Dios i den compañeronan, cu caridad i buena voluntad ainda lo tin nan lugá den curazon di hende.

### Suggestions for Good Stories Will Be Welcomed by News

Whenever a new project gets under way, there are bound to be certain questions asked regarding the project's plans. Several persons already have asked, "What kind of stories are going to be printed in the ARUBA ESSO NEWS?" and others have asked, "Can I help get material for the new paper?"

This and subsequent issues should go far in answering the first query, but it should be pointed out that the NEWS is and always will be interested in receiving suggestions for improving its handling of local events, its makeup, and its general news coverage.

While the NEWS will have no official assistant editors, it is hoped sincerely that every Company employee in Aruba will regard the publication as a joint enterprise of Company men and women, management, and editor, and that all news "leads" will be passed on to the editor for handling and possible inclusion in the NEWS.

### Idea pa Articulo Interesante Lo Worde Apreciá pa Corant

Ki ora cu principio worde duná na un proyecto nobo, ta sigur cu cierto preguntanan lo worde hací en conexión cu plannan di e proyecto. Varios persona ya a puntra, "Ki soorto di storia lo worde gedruk den ARUBA ESSO NEWS?" i otro a puntra, "Mi lo por yuda cu material pa e corant nobo?"

E numero aki i otro numeronan cu lo sigui'e automáticamente lo contesta e prome pregunta satisfactoriamente, pero aki nos ta desea di duna di conoce cu ARUBA ESSO NEWS ta i semper lo ta interesá den ricibi sugestion pa mejora e manera cu asuntonan local ta worde tratá, e arreglamento di e corant i e manera cu noticianan en general ta worde cubrí.

Aunque e corant aki oficialmente lo no tin ningun assistente — redactor, ta di spera sinceramente cu cada empleado di compania den Aruba lo considera e publicación aki como un empresa mixta di e empleadonan, homber i mohe, di Compania, directiva i redactor, i cu tur noticianan lo worde duná na e redactor lende lo studia nan i mira si ta posible ra inclui nan den e corant.—

#### Next Issue Is Jan. 3

The next issue of the Aruba News will be printed as of Friday, January 3, and all copy must reach the editor in the Personnel Building by noon, December 26.

### "C. Y. I." Awards Won by Four Men



Recently awarded "Coin Your Ideas" prizes for good suggestions were the four men pictured above. Left to right Tre J. L. Gates, R. K. Imler, I. V. A. Mendes, and L. R. Johnson.

Five "Coin Your Ideas" awards totaling Fl. 110 were given four Aruba refinery employees recently by J. S. Harrison, Acting General Superintendent. The highest prize — Fl. 50 — was received by J. L. Gates, while R. K. Imler coined two prizes — one of Fl. 25 and another of Fl. 10.

Those receiving awards, and the suggestions which won them, were Mr. Gates, air heater for drying pyrometer

wire, Fl 50; Mr. Imler, changing location of safety valve, Fl. 25, and use of portable signs, Fl. 10; I.V.A. Mendes, installation of additional drain pipe, Fl. 15, and L. R. Johnson, insulating caustic line, Fl. 10.

The Aruba "C.Y.I." Committee meets once a month to consider suggestions turned in by employees, and awards for worthwhile ideas are made monthly by this committee.

#### NEW ARRIVALS

A son, Ralph McAllison, to Mr. and Mrs. George Baptiste, December 1.

A daughter, Jessy Louise, to Mr. and Mrs. George Busby, December 1.

A daughter, Greta Candida, to Mr. and Mrs. Willem van Aanholt, December

A daughter, Sybil Kathrine, to Mr. and Mrs. Griffith Canwood, December 5.

A son, Franklin Eduard, to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Vreden, December 6.

A son, Reynard, to Mr. and Mrs Ezekiel Jones, December 8.

A son, Bob Leocado, to Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Walcott, December 9.

A son, Rufo, to Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Lampe, December 10.

A son, Willem Loreto, to Mr. and Mrs. Teolindo Flanegin, December 10.

A son to Mr. and Mrs. Willem Wernet, December 10.

#### SCHEDULE OF PAY DAYS

Semi-Monthly Payroll

Dec. 1—15 Monday, Dec. 23

Dec. 16—31 Wednesday, Jan. 8

#### A Cheery Slap and a "Jolly"

The following instructions were issued by an automobile association in 1907 to be followed by its members whenever a horsedrawn vehicle was met on the highway. "Drive to one side of the road and, if possible, hide the machine behind a clump of trees; then emerge quietly, take the bridles of the horses and lead them past the automobile. Then give the farmer a cheery slap on the back and a hearty 'jolly!' that will send him on his way feeling that indeed the automobile is the prince of them all."

### Corant Nobo Publicá Pa Tur Emlpeadonan Door di Compania.

Esaki, e prome numero di Aruba Esso News, ta bo corant. E lo encarga su mes cu e actividadnan di e empleadonan di compania na trabao i durante recreación; e lo hiba anuncionan di directiva na debido tempo, i tur ora lo trata di ta interesante i informativo. Publicá door di Lago Oil & Transport Co. Ltd., e corant no tin ningun conexión cu ningun otro publicación tampoco ta worde verwacht cu su contenido lo causa choque cu contenido di ningun di e corantnan local.

ARUBA ESSO NEWS lo sali cada dos siman — probablemente cada otro Diabierna — ora cu e problemanan inicial di drukmento, engrabamento i redacción a worde kitá fo'i den camina. Manera bo por mira, e corant ta worde gedruk cu un tipo di letter cu ta facil pa lesa; tambe bo ta haya reproducción di dibujo i portret. E numeronan cu ta sigui lo wordegedruk ariba un papel di miho calidad. Cada empleado di compania lo ricibi un copia di e corant sin tin mester di paga nada, pues completamente gratis.

Di acuerdo cu otro corantnan di Compania publicá den otro partinan di mundo, ARUBA ESSO NEWS lo trata di duna noticianan correctamente, sin floriamento di e redactor, i lo duna cada asunto tal espacio cu su importancia ta exigi. Cierto eventonan manera nacemento, moorto, casamento, &c., lo sali den cada numero, mientras otro noticianan lo worde gedruk ora i segun nan tuma lugá. Falta di suficiente espacio probablemente lo no permiti poesía, chistes of reporte detayá ariba sport di vorde incluí den e corant. Nirgun scorto di anuncio, comercial di di otro clase, lo worde aceptá pa e corant.

E redactor di ARUBA ESSO NEWS ta Sr. R. W. Schlageter, kende su oficina ta na Oficina di Personal. Su number di telefoon ta 583.—

### National Safety Council Contest Is Won by Lago's Stevedore Division



### For Sale: Good Used Car – But Even for Price of \$ 40 You Won't Want to Buy It

Few persons realize the effects of technological improvements which are changing our habits and making life more enjoyable by providing more and better consumer articles at lower cost.

A fine second-hand car recently appeared on the market. It was in perfect condition, having gone only 4.5 miles. Originally purchased for \$ 1,685, it went to the highest bidder for \$ 40. There was just one thing wrong with the car—it was a 1924 model, 16 years old.

Sixteen years is a long time in the period of industrial progress. Modern cars selling for a third of the car's original purchase price can run rings around it. Although the engine is about the same size as engines used today, the 16-year old model has far less pick-up, can't climb hills as well, and lacks today's economy.

Four-wheel brakes, balloon tires, and safety glass are missing. The fan belt will have to be replaced five or six times as often as the fan belt of a car built this year, and other repairs are on a comparable basis. The car has no air cleaner, no oil filter, no automatic choke, no crankcase ventilating system, no fuel pump, and no shock absorbers.

Where is the fellow who said, "Give me the good old days!"

For the fourth consecutive year the Lago Oil & Transport Company, Ltd., has received first prize in the deep sea stevedore division of the National Safety Council's Marine Section Safety Contest. The award, a bronze plaque, (see picture at left) was made at the National Safety Congress in Chicago October 7. At the same time a certificate of merit was given the Lago Shipping Company, Ltd., as second prize in the tanker division of the Contest.

The 19 companies competing in the Contest's stevedore division reported a total of 2,905 disabling injuries during the six-month period (January 1 to June 30, 1940) for a frequency rate of 135.15 (the frequency rate is the number of disabling injuries per million man-hours worked). Lago's rate of 8.80 not only was much better than the average but also was in striking contrast to the 85.73 and 104.82 rates posted by the secondand third-place winners, respectively.

Lago's record in the previous contests was as follows:

January 1 to June 30, 1936 Frequency rate 0. January 1 to June 30, 1937 Frequency rate 5.36 July 1, 1938 to June 30, 1939 Frequency rate 12.86

Credit for the accomplishment of winning the award is shared by wharfingers and stevedores of the Marine and Maintenance & Construction departments. Since the previous year's trophy is held at the Marine office, the 1939—1940 plaque will be retained at the M. & C. office after its joint acceptance by both departments.

### Canada's First Two-Lane Highway Rapidly Is Nearing Completion

Canada's first dual lane express highway, the \$ 11,000,000 Queen Elizabeth Way, rapidly is nearing completion. The 91-mile route between Fort Erie and Toronto will connect with the new Rainbow bridge at Niagara Falls. Traffic each direction will have an independent 23-foot highway with a 50-foot page between opposing lanes, and all entrances and exits will be ful clover leaves. The old road Hamilton and Toronto had while the new highway stretch will have only 23, greater than two degrees.

### OFFICE TRIMS STILLS FOR SOFTBALL TITLE



Runner-up for the plant softball championship was the Pressure Stills team shown above. In front, left to right, are Frank Worden, Horace Semmens, John Silvers, Louie Crippen, Ted Taylor, and Bill Egan. Back row: Rookie O'Neal, SonnyBoy Williams, Cliff Nilsen, Herman Becnel, Bill Mellendick, and Manager Grover Barnes.

Winner of the playoff series for the plant softball championship was the Office team. The new champs are shown above. In front row, left to right, are Gil Corrington, Rudy van Daalen, Cornie Dunlap, Al Ayres, and Bernie Shearon. Back row: Ed Tucker, Vel Linam. Manager Phil Werterberger, Charlie Smith, and Ed Long:

### Takes 3 Games in Row After Dropping Opener

The Office team won the championship of the Lago Refinery Softball League on Wednesday evening, December 4, when it defeated the Pressure Stills team for the third time in a best-threeout-of-five series. The Stills took the first game 12-10 on November 28, and the Office men took the next three by scores of 23-16, 7-6, and 10-9 on December 2, 3, and 4, respectively.

League play started in May with nine teams competing, and ended in November with eight teams fighting for top honors. A Schaughnessy playoff among the four top teams brought the Pressure Stills and Office teams together for the championships series.

### **Employees Defeat Soldiers** In First of Soccer Series

A team of Lago employees defeated a contingent of non-commissioned officers of the British forces by a score of 5 to 0 in a soccer game at Palm Stadium Sunday, December 8. Although the ritishers were kept out of the score mn the game was hard fought rhout and later games, after more may tell another story.

e who played on the winning n were Benne, Van Ogtrop, uldijk, Geronaus, Van Oyen, Eegers, Thaele, Schelfhorst,



The Num Nums, softball team composed of beautiful women who play an exceedingly spry brand of ball, were defeated by an Officer's' team on Wednesday evening, December 4. In front, left to right, are Gladys Baggeley, Beatrice Olsen, Manager Jennie Bluejacket, Geraldine Baxter, Marian Yates, and Georgia Ushler. Back row: Dawn Grey, Madeline Wylie, Frances Uhr, Mary Stiehl, Forrestine Hughes, and Lois Repath.

The softball championship series between the Office and Pressure Stills teams went to the officemen three games to one, but, like the late presidential election in the U.S., it might have ended differently if a fraction of one per cent of the breaks had gone to the other side.

When Eddie Long whaled out a triple in the fourth inning of the last game, he drove in Sparrow Smith - and he nearly ran over the personnel manager between second and third bases.

The second game, between the gals and the officers, was plenty exciting even though the men were on the long end of a 23 - 8 score. The gals fielded remarkably well, although sometimes they didn't know what to do with the ball when they got it, and the officers' somewhat indifferent fielding was helped several times by their ability to field the ball with their feet in rugby style.